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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Korea
SUBJECT P'unghae-myon, North Korea: Conscription, Defectors, and Economic Conditions

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- 25X1X
- Between March 1948 and July 1951, 122 men were conscripted for military service in P'unghae-myon (124-59, 38-26) (XC 7355). Four of the draftees became officers, 11 non-commissioned officers, and the remaining 107 privates.
 - Of a total membership of 1268 persons, two-thirds of them women, in the P'unghae-myon branch of the North Korean Farmers Alliance, 523 persons had defected to the ROK by July 1951. From the beginning of the Korean war to that date, the membership had suffered 369 casualties, 135 of them men and 234 women. In July 1951 there were 14 new members of the alliance in P'unghae-myon. Of the membership in July, 38 were members of the North Korean Labor Party and six were members of the Democratic Party.
 - In the summer of 1950, before North Korean troops retreated from Kwanghae Province northward, there were 1812 houses in P'unghae-myon and 510 units² were gathered by the use of 850 farming implements. In July 1951 only 1112 houses remained, and only 151 units were being harvested although the number of farm tools available had only slightly decreased. The loss of farm animals was severe: in mid-1950 there were 301 cows, 305 pigs, and 300 chickens in the district, but in July 1951 there were 105 cows, 250 pigs, and 150 chickens.
 - By August 1951 P'unghae-myon had contributed the following straw products and other items to the North Korean government and army:

Straw bags for grain	5280 bags
Straw bags for salt	6300 bags
Straw rope	5600 units ³
Straw mats	900 mats
Used straw bags	8362 bags
Ox hides and pig skins	60
Lead and copper articles	310 pieces
 - In the month of September 1951, the principal objectives of the P'unghae-myon branch of the North Korean Farmers Alliance were to encourage

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the prompt payment of taxes in kind by the use of instructors and "model farmers," other propaganda work, and lecture classes for alliance officers and chairmen of alliance branches in the villages in the district. The subjects of the lecture classes were to be the current domestic situation in North Korea and modern farming techniques. General meetings of the membership in each village to review the work and the plans for the third and fourth quarters of the year were to be held in late September. These programs were to be supervised by KIM Ung-su, chairman of the P'unghe-myon Farmers Alliance.

25X1C1 [REDACTED] Comment. The language used by the source suggests that "casualties" here means deaths, but this is not certain; all figures in this and succeeding paragraphs should be read in light of the fact that P'unghe-myon is less than ten miles from the west coast of North Korea and only about thirty miles north of the 38th parallel, was occupied by UN forces, and has possibly been subjected to air and naval attacks.

25X1C2 [REDACTED] Comment. The unit in which crops are usually measured in Korea is the 'sok,' equal to about five bushels, but the source did not state the unit here.

25X1C 3 [REDACTED] Comment. Rope is usually measured by weight, rather than length, in Korea. Presumably this means "5600 inan," or about 44,800 pounds of rope.

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